



Memorandum

To: Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

From: Jennifer Jones, CDM Smith
Christina M Gonzalez, CDM Smith

Date: March 14, 2016

Subject: Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement Project

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on March 14, 2016, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Christina M Gonzalez, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 6:15 am and ending at 3:45 p.m. Weather conditions were cloudy in the morning, and becoming clearer with partial coverage in the afternoon. Temperatures ranged from 58°F in the morning to 64°F in the afternoon. Overnight, there was no measureable rain.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with compacting and filling along the southeast channel, grading of the southern slope, planting along the southern slope of the East Basin, preparation for fencing on the peninsulas, hauling of the stockpiles in the parking lot and near the tide gates, and setting the cement pouring for the walking path along Admiralty Way. All crews were overseen by the Contractor Superintendent and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field-log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

6:15 am. Biological monitor arrives on site to conduct initial assessment. The construction trailer gate is open and several crew members are in the construction parking lot.

6:25 am. The initial biological survey begins. The skies are overcast. A black-crowned night heron is standing in the shallow waters of the West Basin. Several waterfowl are in the Central Basin and along the mudflat. Low light conditions make it hard to identify waterfowl at this time, but an American wigeon and mallard are heard. A very light sprinkle begins, but is over by the time the initial assessment is completed. Eight more ducks wade in the East Basin. A very light sprinkle

begins. A double-crested cormorant flies into the southern portion of the Central Basin.

7:05 am. The biological monitor gives the bio-awareness training to the construction crew. Training focused on awareness of wildlife in the Basin, and to be mindful of monarchs and pick up trash and debris.

7:10 am. Work begins. The fencing workers begin to work on the northwest peninsula, electrical work is done near the bike path with the lighted bollards, and landscapers work on the area just south of the walking path by the bike plaza.

7:19 am. A great egret lands on the gabion peninsula. A snowy egret is standing nearby. A western gull stands in the West Basin mudflat. Another snowy egret arrives in the East Basin and is chased off by the other one. One egret returns and perches on the privacy fence. A ring-billed gull is standing on the East Basin mudflat. A western gull flies nearby with food in its beak and flies off site.

7:40 am. Two snowy egrets and a great egret are near the mouth of the southeast channel.

7:52 am. The territorial snowy egret continues to chase the other around the Basin. Five double-crested cormorants stand on the wall of the stormwater outfall with a ring-billed gull. Four gadwall, four mallards, eight wigeons, and five lesser scaup are in the East Basin. A great blue heron enters the Basin near the outfall. Two mallards are in the southeast channel. Workers continue grading along the walking path near the boat ramp. Three more snowy egrets enter the Basin near the southeast channel and stand near the one who was previously being chased. The territorial egret begins to walk in the opposite direction across the channel.

8:13 am. A yellow-rumped warbler is in the eucalyptus tree by the pump house. An Anna's hummingbird is in another nearby.

8:33 am. Two American coots are in the Central Basin with six wigeons, four lesser scaup, and two mallards. Two mallards fly up to the gabion peninsula near the great egret.

8:46 am. The great egret moves to the south bank above the silt fence near the tide gates as a great blue heron flies in. It quickly flies back into the gabion peninsula next to the snowy egret.

9:15 am. A worker begins to shovel the stockpile material by the tide gates into a truck. The black-crowned night heron returns to the gabion peninsula. The snowy egret walks along the southern bank of the Basin. There is a decrease in waterfowl activity from earlier in the morning. A double-crested cormorant flies out toward the marina. Another worker takes dirt from stockpiles in the parking lot to the northern slope.

9:30 am. A cement truck arrives to pour cement for the curb of the Admiralty Way walking path. An American crow flies into the west mudflat. It gathers nesting materials and flies into a tree in the Fanta Sea parking lot across Admiralty Way.

Mr. Rick Sun
March 14, 2016
Page 3

9:51 am. The osprey flies in and perches on the top of the pine next to the tide gates. A worker begins grading the southern slope at the East Basin. A bufflehead dives for food in the West Basin.

10:15 am. The osprey flies from the tree to make a few rounds over the Basin but does not catch a fish. It flies out toward the marina.

10:22 am. The two killdeer are spotted on the Central mudflat.

10:35 am. The osprey returns, catches a fish from the Basin and perches on the top of the electrical pole on the northwest peninsula.

11:05 am. A belted kingfisher stands on the gabion peninsula and then quickly flies away.

11:29 am. A European starling is perched on a palm across Washington. Six double-crested cormorants stand on the bank of the central mudflat with a ring-billed gull.

11:34 am. The killdeer mate in the Central Basin mudflat. Two house sparrows fly overhead. Both killdeer move to the west mudflat. The fence crew continue to work on the peninsulas. Another worker lays mesh for irrigation near the stormwater outfall. Landscapers prepare the soil on the south edge of the walking path next to the bike path.

11:53 am. A dark-eyed junco is heard calling from near the bike path.

12:00 pm. An Anna's hummingbird flies between the pines near the tide gates.

12:00 am. Crew breaks for lunch.

12:45 pm. Work resumes. A snowy egret flies into the Basin and it is quickly met with the territorial one which calls and chases after it. It flies off site. Both killdeer are in the west mudflat. Two great blue herons and a great egret stand on the gabion peninsula.

1:10 pm. Landscapers begin to stage plants along the southern slope. Ten wigeon, twelve lesser scaup, and one ring-billed gull wade in the central mudflat. Five double-crested cormorants stand on the walls of the stormwater outfall. Two wigeon, two gadwall, and two American coots are in the East Basin.

1:28 pm. A yellow-rumped warbler flies into the pine tree at the East Basin. An Allen's hummingbird is heard in the eucalyptus nearby. A double-crested cormorant flies into the West Basin. Crews begin to fill the walking path north of the boat ramp.

2:03 pm. The osprey returns and begins hunting for fish. It is successful and takes its kill to the same spot as before.

2:15 pm. Two house finch perch on the pegs of the transformer on the west side. A house sparrow is in the bushes nearby. The two killdeer are in the West Basin; the male calls out.

2:27 pm. The killdeer move to the gabion peninsula. A mourning dove perches on the powerlines near the construction trailer. A second perches next to it and another lands on the west slope of the West Basin.

2:45 pm. Three house finch perch on a wire near the construction trailer.

3:09 pm. A monarch butterfly flies along the southeast channel near the pump house. The crew near the boat ramp begin to pack up for the day. An Anna's hummingbird is perched on a tree near the pump house.

3:30 pm. Work ends for the day. The gate is closed and all crew out by 3:45 pm.

Additional Observations

One osprey was observed today. It was seen diving for food and eating on site. It was identified as the same osprey seen prior by its missing tail feather.

No Black Skimmers or California Least Terns were observed today. No savannah sparrows, and therefore no potential Belding's savannah sparrows, were observed. No California brown pelican were observed.

One monarch butterfly was observed today by the biological monitor. No butterflies or other wildlife were harmed during construction. Construction crews were reminded to be on the lookout for any monarchs that fly into active work areas.

Planting occurred on the northern and southern slopes of the East Basin.

Conclusions

Based on observations made during monitoring, the following conclusions were made:

1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife tends to slowly move away from an area when crews approach to conduct work activities. They return to the area once the crews move on. The crew was reminded to dispose of trash properly.
2. In general, wildlife is most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife activity after 10:00 am, with the exception of American crows and gulls. Wildlife activity often increases slightly in the late afternoon.
3. No construction activities occurred in the water.
4. One monarch butterfly was observed today.

5. The number of fish surfacing and caught by osprey and wading birds confirm that fish are entering the Basin through the tide gates.
6. One osprey, identified by its missing tail feather, has been observed fishing in the Basin every day this week. The time spent in the Basin and its aggressive behavior toward other osprey trying to fish in the Basin suggest this osprey is a resident and considers the Basin its territory.
7. The killdeer pair are again observed mating but there is no sign of a nest. The pair move between the West Basin and Central Basin mudflats with occasional short trips to the gabion peninsula.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on March 14, 2016.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on March 14, 2016		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	Several individuals; Very common flying overhead, perching on power line poles, and exploring the basin banks
Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	Two individuals observed on the northwest mudflats
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Two individuals observed fishing in the Basin
Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>	Several individuals; Common flying overhead and standing in near the mudflats
Western Gull	<i>Larus occidentalis</i>	Two individuals flying overhead
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	1 individual foraging throughout the Basin
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	5 individuals foraging throughout the Basin
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	2 individuals foraging throughout the Basin
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	4-8 individuals foraging throughout the Basin and flying overhead
Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>	4-6 individuals observed flying overhead
American Wigeon	<i>Anas americana</i>	Over 12 individuals foraging and resting in the Basin
Lesser Scaup	<i>Aythya affinis</i>	Over 12 individuals foraging and resting in the Basin
American Coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>	Two individuals foraging throughout the Basin
Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	Very common; observed flying overhead and on structures to the

		south and west of the Basin
House Finch	<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>	Several individuals; common in palms along Washington Boulevard
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	1 individual observed along the north bank
Anna's Hummingbird	<i>Calypte anna</i>	2 individuals observed hovering overhead or perching throughout the Basin
European Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	1 individual calling from a palm tree on Washington
Yellow-rumped Warbler	<i>Setophaga coronate</i>	1 individual in the staged plants on the west side of the Basin
Dark-eyed Junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	Several individuals calling from trees across Admiralty
Bufflehead	<i>Bucephala albeola</i>	1 individual wading in the Basin
Allen's Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus sasin</i>	1 individual heard in the eucalyptus tree
Belted Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle alcyon</i>	1 individual on the gabion peninsula

Figures below depict the planting activities for the day:



Figure 1 - Northern slope of the southeast channel



Figure 2 – Planting on southern slope



Figure 3 - Planting on southern slope



Memorandum

To: Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

From: Jennifer Jones, CDM Smith
Christina M Gonzalez, CDM Smith

Date: March 15, 2016

Subject: Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement Project

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on March 15, 2016, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Christina M Gonzalez, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 6:15 am and ending at 4:00 p.m. Weather conditions were clear. Temperatures ranged from 50°F in the morning to 66°F in the afternoon. Overnight, there was no measureable rain.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with setting the scaffolding, landscape work along the southern and northern slopes, electrical work and installation of the lighted bollards along the walking path, placing of meter and irrigation control valve boxes along the irrigation line, and filling for the decomposed granite (DG) walking path parallel to the bike path. All crews were overseen by the Contractor Superintendent and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field-log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

6:15 am. Biological monitor arrives on site to conduct initial assessment. The construction trailer gate is open and several crew members are in the construction parking lot.

6:25 am. The initial biological survey begins. The sun has not yet risen so a spotlight is used when needed. Two killdeer are heard on the west mudflat. A dark-eyed junco is heard calling from Admiralty Way. Two American coots are in the central mudflat. Several waterfowl are in the East Basin. An American wigeon calls out confirming its presence. The white body of the lesser scaup can be seen contrasted against the dark water. At least five wigeons are in the southeast channel but are

scared of the spotlight and fly out of the Basin. Two mallards also fly out of the southeast channel off site. It is decided the spotlight is best not used. Several mallards and wigeons come back. Two western gulls circle the Basin and call out. A great blue heron stands on the gabion peninsula. Three double-crested cormorants are in the Central Basin. An Allen's Hummingbird is in the pines next to the tide gates. A black-crowned night heron and snowy egret stand next to the tide gates on the gabion peninsula. A yellow-rumped warbler is in the bushes near the construction trailer.

7:00 am. The biological monitor gives the bio-awareness training to the construction crew. Training focused on awareness of wildlife in the Basin, and to be mindful of monarchs as well as to be careful near the west mudflat in anticipation of a killdeer nest.

7:10 am. Work begins. Workers continue to install the fence on the west end. Soil is delivered to the parking lot. A large group of crew work on the DG path.

7:30 am. A bufflehead and two mallards swim in the West Basin.

8:10 am. A dark-eyed junco is perched on the electrical wires near the construction trailer. Eight wigeons swim into the West basin. Two mallards fly to the gabion peninsula. Twelve lesser scaup, two American coots, and four American wigeon are in the Central Basin. A ring-billed gull stands on the bank of the central mudflat. An Anna's hummingbird is perched on top of the sign on a light post along Washington. Two killdeer are seen sitting on the central mudflat.

8:20 am. A great egret stands on the gabion peninsula.

8:40 am. Landscapers shovel dirt to create a berm around the downslope of the plants to retain water on the northern slope. Two more workers are removing collected topsoil along the silt fence on the southern slope near the new plantings.

8:54 am. An Allen's hummingbird, Townsend's warbler, and a possible cedar waxwing are in the pine at the East Basin.

9:17 am. An Anna's hummingbird is flying in and out of the eucalyptus tree on the bike path. The crew have begun to take down the privacy fence along the bike path to work on the DG walkway.

9:24 am. An Anna's hummingbird is perched on a tree by the pump house. Crews are installing the scaffolding for the curbing of the walking path on Admiralty and another set work workers measure the grading levels nearby.

9:44 am. A yellow-rumped warbler is foraging in the scrub mix on the west side of the Basin, then flies to the gabion peninsula. The osprey is perched in the pine near the tide gates and begins circling the Basin, apparently hunting. An Allen's hummingbird is in the pine near the tide gates. Two Allen's hummingbirds chase each other over the water near the tide gates.

10:05 am. Workers plant along the southern slope near the silt fence. A crew along Admiralty way prepares the scaffolding for the walking path curb.

10:19 am. The majority of the waterfowl have moved to the Central Basin. A house sparrow hops along the wall of the northeast peninsula then flies away toward Washington.

10:27 am. An Anna's hummingbird is perched on an oak next to the northwest peninsula. A mourning dove perches on the powerlines over the west mudflat.

10:47 am. The osprey is perched on the top railing of one of the towers across on Admiralty Way. The osprey flies over the basin then perches on the pines near the Central Basin. The osprey eats its catch on the powerline post on the northwest peninsula. A great egret is perched on the gabion peninsula near the tide gate.

11:23 am. A belted kingfisher is perched on the wires near the construction trailer. A house finch forages through the plants along the west side.

11:35 am. A brown pelican flies into the East Basin. It appears to be bathing itself by flapping its wings and dipping its beak in the water. It is gone shortly after.

11:56 am. There are 15 lesser scaup and 7 American wigeons in the West Basin.

12:00 am. Crew breaks for lunch.

12:45 pm. Work resumes. A great blue heron is perched on the gabion peninsula. A black-crowned night heron stands in the water near the tide gates.

1:19 pm. Twelve wigeon and two gadwall are in the East Basin.

1:30 pm. Four osprey circle the basin but do not dive.

2:10 pm. The osprey with the missing tail feather holds something that looks like a small bird or rat in its talon while attempting to chase the other osprey away.

2:27 pm. One killdeer is seen in the Central Basin. Two American coots and sixteen lesser scaup are in the West Basin.

2:35 pm. A brown pelican flies into the Basin and, as before, begins flapping its wings and beak into the water. It leaves the basin shortly after.

2:47 pm. Both killdeer are in the west mudflat. There is no sign of a nest. The DG walking path is nearly completely filled.

3:00 pm. Workers continue berming the bottom edge of plants on the southern edge and northeast peninsula.

3:38 pm. A house finch and house sparrow call from bushes on the west slope.

3:45 pm. Work ends for the day. The gate is closed and all crew out by 4:00 pm.

Additional Observations

Four osprey were observed today. They were seen diving for food and eating on site. One was identified as the same osprey seen prior by its missing tail feather.

No Black Skimmers or California Least Terns were observed today. No savannah sparrows, and therefore no potential Belding's savannah sparrows, were observed.

A California brown pelican was observed briefly bathing in the basin on two occasions today.

No monarch butterflies were observed today by the biological monitor. No butterflies or other wildlife were harmed during construction. Construction crews were reminded to be on the lookout for any monarchs that fly into active work areas.

Planting occurred on the northern and southern slopes of the East Basin.

Conclusions

Based on observations made during monitoring, the following conclusions were made:

1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife tends to slowly move away from an area when crews approach to conduct work activities. They return to the area once the crews move on. The crew was reminded to dispose of trash properly.
2. In general, wildlife is most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife activity after 10:00 am, with the exception of American crows and gulls. Wildlife activity often increases slightly in the late afternoon.
3. No construction activities occurred in the water.
4. The number of fish surfacing and caught by osprey and wading birds confirm that fish are entering the Basin through the tide gates.
5. One osprey, identified by its missing tail feather, has been observed fishing in the Basin every day this week. The time spent in the Basin and its aggressive behavior toward other osprey trying to fish in the Basin suggest this osprey is a resident and considers the Basin its territory.
6. There is no sign of a killdeer nest. The pair move between the West Basin and Central Basin mudflats with occasional short trips to the gabion peninsula.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on March 15, 2016.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on March 15, 2016		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	Several individuals; Very common flying overhead, perching on power line poles, and exploring the basin banks
Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	Two individuals observed on the northwest mudflats
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Two individuals observed fishing in the Basin
Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>	Several individuals; Common flying overhead and standing in near the mudflats
Western Gull	<i>Larus occidentalis</i>	Two individuals flying overhead
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	1 individual foraging throughout the Basin
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	5 individuals foraging throughout the Basin
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	2 individuals foraging throughout the Basin
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	4-8 individuals foraging throughout the Basin and flying overhead
Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>	4-6 individuals observed flying overhead
American Wigeon	<i>Anas americana</i>	Over 12 individuals foraging and resting in the Basin
Lesser Scaup	<i>Aythya affinis</i>	Over 12 individuals foraging and resting in the Basin
American Coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>	Two individuals foraging throughout the Basin
Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	Very common; observed flying overhead and on structures to the south and west of the Basin
House Finch	<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>	Several individuals; common in palms along Washington Boulevard
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	1 individual observed along the north bank
Anna's Hummingbird	<i>Calypte anna</i>	2 individuals observed hovering overhead or perching throughout the Basin
Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	1-2 individuals quickly bathing in the water
Yellow-rumped Warbler	<i>Setophaga coronate</i>	1 individual in the staged plants on the west side of the Basin

Dark-eyed Junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	Several individuals calling from trees across Admiralty
Bufflehead	<i>Bucephala albeola</i>	1 individual wading in the Basin
Allen's Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus sasin</i>	1 individual heard in the eucalyptus tree
Belted Kingfisher	<i>Megasceryle alcyon</i>	1 individual on the gabion peninsula
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	1 individual perched on the powerline

Figures below depict the planting activities for the day:



Figure 1 – New planting on the southern slope facing west.



Figure 2 – New planting on the southern slope facing west.



Memorandum

To: Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

From: Jennifer Jones, CDM Smith
Christina M Gonzalez, CDM Smith

Date: March 16, 2016

Subject: Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement Project

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on March 16, 2016, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Christina M Gonzalez, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 6:15 am and ending at 4:15 p.m. Weather conditions were clear. Temperatures ranged from 51°F in the morning to 72°F in the afternoon. Overnight, there was no measureable rain.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with setting the scaffolding and cement pouring for the curbs on the Admiralty walking path and curbing along the Washington sidewalk, landscape work along the southern and northern slopes, electrical work and installation of the lighted bollards along the walking path, placing of meter and irrigation control valve boxes along the irrigation line, and backfilling the area behind the tide gates. All crews were overseen by the Contractor Superintendent and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field-log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

6:15 am. Biological monitor arrives on site to conduct initial assessment. The construction trailer gate is open and several crew members are in the construction parking lot.

6:25 am. The initial biological survey begins. Approximately ten waterfowl are in the Central Basin. A mallard calls out confirming the species presence. Two American coots can be seen wading in the Basin. House finches can be heard in the palms along Washington. Approximately nine lesser scaup swim in the East Basin. A dark-eyed junco is heard in the trees on Admiralty. Four American wigeons fly into the East Basin from the southeast channel to join the others. A black-crowned night

heron is perched in the gabion peninsula near the tide gates. Several gulls fly north overhead.

7:00 am. The biological monitor gives the bio-awareness training to the construction crew. Training focused on awareness of wildlife in the Basin, the prior presence of the brown pelican, the higher amount of osprey, and to be mindful of monarchs as well as to be careful near the west mudflat in anticipation of finding a killdeer nest.

7:10 am. Work begins.

7:30 am. A snowy egret stands near the tide gate. A least sandpiper walks along the bank of the West Basin. A dark-eyed junco is perched on the privacy fence near the tide gate entrance. A western gull stands in the west mudflat. A tree swallow flies over the parking lot. A second western gull stands next to the other one. Eleven American wigeon are in the Central Basin. There are now five western gulls on the west mudflat.

7:54 am. Two gadwall and three mallards swim in the East Basin. A worker uses the excavator along the southern slope. Another crew continues to lay scaffolding for the curbs of the Admiralty Way walking path.

8:07 am. A yellow-rumped warbler is in the eucalyptus tree by the pump house. An Allen's hummingbird hovers over the new walking path and back into the trees. A Townsend's warbler is in the east pine.

8:25 am. A worker uses a rammer to prepare the Washington walking path. Two workers dig in the northwest peninsula. A European starling perches between the homes on Washington. The two killdeer stand on the bank of the central mudflat. Workers dig out existing concrete near the entrance of the northwest peninsula. The crew prepares scaffolding for the walking path near Admiralty.

8:56 am. Two Allen's hummingbirds chase each other near the West Basin. A brown pelican flies out of the Basin towards the marina. A bufflehead is in the West Basin. A great egret flies into the east mudflat.

9:07 am. Two black phoebes perch on the fence on the west slope. A mallard flies in under the pines near the tide gates. A mourning dove perches on the utility pole.

9:25 am. The male mallard flies back into the Basin near its mate. They both fly out, circle the Basin twice, and the female lands in the scrub mix north of the silt fence while the male comes back into the Basin. Two workers are shoveling dirt around the plants nearby. The female flies back into the Basin. They both begin a head-bobbing ritual, then the male mounts the female. When the mating is completed, they wade in the water and groom themselves. A great egret is perched on the gabion peninsula by the tide gates, then flies west offsite.

9:37 am. A second, possibly active entrance to the ground squirrel burrow is found under the second pine from the tide gate. There have been no sightings of the ground squirrels in the last two

weeks. A dark-eyed junco is perched near the sea lavender under the central pines. Grading continues by the terra-mesh on the southern slope of the southeast channel. Crews remove and saw off the fence posts.

9:56 am. An Anna's hummingbird is perched on a tree by the pump house.

10:10 am. A MacGillivray's warbler and a Townsend's warbler are in the east pine.

10:22 am. An osprey flies into the Basin and takes its catch behind the towers on Admiralty Way. It is not the one previously identified as territorial with the missing tail feather. A landscape delivery arrives. The great egret returns to the gabion peninsula. A black phoebe is perched on the wall of the stormwater outfall. Two gadwall sleep on the wall. The planted milkweed is beginning to sprout.

10:55 am. The osprey takes its second fish and eats it on the end of the gabion peninsula.

11:14 am. The osprey is perched on the top of the central pines and does not seem affected by the work on the observation deck below.

12:00 am. Crew breaks for lunch.

12:45 pm. Work resumes.

1:00 pm. The two killdeer are back in the west mudflat. The osprey circles over the Basin. A Mourning Cloak butterfly flies through the scrub plants in the West Basin. Crews continue planting on the bottom slope. Cement is being poured for the curbs of the Admiralty path. An Anna's hummingbird calls from a sign on a light post on Washington. Approximately 32 waterfowl are in the Basin, mostly lesser scaups and wigeons along with the two coots. More topsoil is placed on the southern slope between the central pines and the tide gate.

1:37 pm. The great egret is near the tide gates.

1:57 pm. One osprey is perched in the pine by the tide gates. As another comes near it begins to call. The other one does not land in the Basin, but flies away.

2:48 pm. A western gull flies over the Basin. Two Allen's hummingbirds hover between the two pines next to the tide gates.

3:14 pm. An Anna's hummingbird perches on the oak tree by the northwest peninsula and scratches its beak on a branch. Two dragonflies are seen mating over the east mudflat. Another dragonfly is seen flying over the northern slope of the Basin.

3:30 pm. Crews finish work and begin to replace the privacy fence.

3:54 pm. A great blue heron stands on the gabion peninsula.

4:15 pm. Work ends for the day. The gate is closed and all crew leave for the day.

Additional Observations

Two osprey were observed today. They were seen diving for food and eating on site. One was identified as the same osprey seen prior by its missing tail feather.

No Black Skimmers or California Least Terns were observed today. No savannah sparrows, and therefore no potential Belding's savannah sparrows, were observed either.

A California brown pelican was observed briefly visiting the Basin today.

No monarch butterflies were observed today by the biological monitor. No butterflies or other wildlife were harmed during construction. Construction crews were reminded to be on the lookout for any monarchs that fly into active work areas.

Planting occurred on the northern and southern slopes of the East Basin.

Conclusions

Based on observations made during monitoring, the following conclusions were made:

1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife tends to slowly move away from an area when crews approach to conduct work activities. They return to the area once the crews move on. The crew was reminded to dispose of trash properly.
2. In general, wildlife is most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife activity after 10:00 am, with the exception of American crows and gulls. Wildlife activity often increases slightly in the late afternoon.
3. No construction activities occurred in the water.
4. The number of fish surfacing and caught by osprey and wading birds confirm that fish are entering the Basin through the tide gates.
5. One osprey, identified by its missing tail feather, has been observed fishing in the Basin every day this week. The time spent in the Basin and its aggressive behavior toward other osprey trying to fish in the Basin suggest this osprey is a resident and considers the Basin its territory.
6. There is no sign of a killdeer nest. The pair move between the West Basin and Central Basin mudflats with occasional short trips to the gabion peninsula.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on March 16, 2016.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on March 16, 2016		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	Several individuals; Very common flying overhead, perching on power line poles, and exploring the basin banks
Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	Two individuals observed on the northwest mudflats
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Two individuals observed fishing in the Basin
Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>	Several individuals; Common flying overhead and standing in near the mudflats
Western Gull	<i>Larus occidentalis</i>	Two individuals flying overhead
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	1 individual foraging throughout the Basin
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	1 individual foraging near the tide gate
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	1 individuals perched on the gabion peninsula
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	4-6 individuals foraging throughout the Basin and flying overhead
Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>	4-6 individuals observed flying overhead
American Wigeon	<i>Anas americana</i>	Over 12 individuals foraging and resting in the Basin
Lesser Scaup	<i>Aythya affinis</i>	Over 12 individuals foraging and resting in the Basin
American Coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>	Two individuals foraging throughout the Basin
Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	Very common; observed flying overhead and on structures to the south and west of the Basin
House Finch	<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>	Several individuals; common in palms along Washington Boulevard
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	1 individual observed along the north bank
Anna's Hummingbird	<i>Calypte anna</i>	2 individuals observed hovering overhead or perching throughout the Basin
Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	1-2 individuals quickly bathing in the water

Yellow-rumped Warbler	<i>Setophaga coronate</i>	1 individual in the staged plants on the west side of the Basin
Dark-eyed Junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	Several individuals calling from trees across Admiralty
Bufflehead	<i>Bucephala albeola</i>	3 individuals wading in the Basin
Allen's Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus sasin</i>	1 individual heard in the eucalyptus tree
European starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Several individuals in the palms along Washington
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	1 individual perched on the powerline
Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	Several individuals perched on the fence throughout the Basin
Tree Swallow	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>	Several individuals flying overhead
Black-crowned night heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	1 individual on the gabion peninsula
MacGillivray's Warbler	<i>Geothlypis tolmiei</i>	1 individual seen in the east pine
Least sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>	1 individual in the west mudflat

Figures below depict the planting activities for the day:



Figure 1 – new planting on the southern slope facing west.



Memorandum

To: Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

From: Jennifer Jones, CDM Smith
Christina M Gonzalez, CDM Smith

Date: March 17, 2016

Subject: Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement Project

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on March 17, 2016, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Christina M Gonzalez, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 6:15 am and ending at 3:45 p.m. Weather conditions were partly cloudy. Temperatures ranged from 53°F in the morning to 67°F in the afternoon. Overnight, there was no measureable rain.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with setting the scaffolding and cement pouring for the curbs on the Admiralty Way walking path, landscape work along the northern slope, electrical work and installation of the lighted bollards along the Admiralty Way walking path, installation of the decks on an observation deck, placing of topsoil on the southern slope between the pines, and backfilling the area behind the tide gates. All crews were overseen by the Contractor Superintendent and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field-log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

6:15 am. Biological monitor arrives on site to conduct initial assessment. The construction trailer gate is open and several crew members are in the construction parking lot.

6:25 am. The initial biological survey begins. Several house finch and house sparrows call from the palms on Washington. Six lesser scaup sleep in the west basin. Five American wigeons and two American coots wade by the stormwater outfall. Dark-eyed juncos are heard in the trees on admiralty. Several wigeons are in the southern part of the Basin. A mallard flies on top of the gabion peninsula. Two mallards fly into the West Basin. Two black-crowned night herons are perched in

the railing near the tide gates.

7:00 am. The biological monitor gives the bio-awareness training to the construction crew. Training focused on awareness of wildlife in the Basin, the prior presence of the brown pelican, the possibility of ground squirrels near the tide gate pines and to be mindful of monarchs and dragonflies as well as to be careful near the west mudflat in anticipation of finding a killdeer nest. The mating birds was also mentioned, and to be mindful if the birds get behind the silt fence.

7:10 am. Work begins.

7:29 am. A western gull is bathing in the West Basin bank. Crews are digging a trench and backfilling near the walls behind the tide gates.

7:52 am. A western gull joins the other on the west mudflat. A black phoebe is perched on the fence of the parapet wall around the West Basin. A rock pigeon walks through the central mudflat. An Anna's hummingbird is on the sign on the light post on Washington. Eighteen lesser scaup, four gadwall, two mallards are in the Central Basin. Thirteen American wigeons are in the East Basin.

8:40 am. Five killdeer are on the northwest mudflat. They are walking around a dry patch and calling profusely. One is scratching around some rocks, but walks away. The biological monitor searches the area but no nest is found.

9:05 am. An Allen's hummingbird is in the pine near the tide gates. The crew is now compacting the soil behind the tide gates. Another group works on scaffolding for the curbing of the Admiralty walking path closer to the tide gates. Two more workers dig holes along the walking path for the fence. A double-crested cormorant dives for food in the southern portion of the Basin.

9:15 am. Two mallards sleep on the gabion peninsula. The lighted bollards are being installed on the Admiralty walking path. The decking is being installed on the observation deck in front of the East Basin. Two mallards stand high up on the graded path of the southeast channel. They fly into the water.

9:39 am. An Anna's hummingbird is perched on a tree by the pump house. A dark-eyed junco and a yellow-rumped warbler are in the east pine. A mourning dove forages in the scrub mix in the northeast peninsula. A house finch and black phoebe forage through the pickleweed of the central mudflat then fly across Washington.

10:29 am. Workers continue to pour topsoil on the slope between the pines.

11:03 am. A dragonfly flies over the West Basin. A killdeer calls from the mudflat. A dark-eyed junco flies into the pine by the tide gates.

11:20 am. Two American wigeons are in the southern part of the Basin. Two gadwall and a wigeon are at the mouth of the southeast channel.

Mr. Rick Sun
March 17, 2016
Page 3

11:33 am. An Anna's hummingbird is perched in a tree by the pump house. A snowy egret is perched on the gabion peninsula.

12:00 am. Crew breaks for lunch.

12:45 pm. Work resumes.

1:00 pm. Two killdeer fly to the roof of the Hilton Hotel. A house sparrow is in the bushes next to the West Basin. A crow is perched on the powerlines by the construction trailer. Crews continue to work on the scaffolding and spreading of topsoil. Four gadwall, one mallard, and thirteen lesser scaup are in the Central Basin. Two American coots and four lesser scaup are near the stormwater outfall. Two mallards sleep on the wall. Concrete is being placed for the Admiralty walking path curb.

1:35 pm. A monarch butterfly flies through the staged plants under the east pine. Four wigeon are in the southern portion of the Basin with several lesser scaup. A snowy egret flies into the Basin. Work continues on the terra-mesh along Admiralty Way. Landscapers dig holes with an excavator near the pump house.

1:47 pm. Another monarch flies along the southeast channel. Two western gulls stand in the west mudflat.

2:19 pm. A bufflehead flies into the Basin. Another western gull flies into the Basin. Two house finches are perched on the fence near the parking lot. Two western gulls fly over but do not land.

2:44 pm. A great blue heron flies into the East Basin.

3:00 pm. Two house finch are perched on the powerlines near the construction trailer.

3:15 pm. A peregrine falcon is seen in the staged plants on the west side of the Basin. It flies into the pine at the tide gates and scares a belted kingfisher.

3:30 pm. Work ends for the day. The gate is closed and all crew leave for the day.

Additional Observations

No Osprey, Black Skimmers or California Least Terns were observed today. No savannah sparrows, and therefore no potential Belding's savannah sparrows, were observed either.

Five killdeer were seen in the west mudflat calling and displaying signs of determining a nest location.

Two monarch butterflies were observed today by the biological monitor. No butterflies or other wildlife were harmed during construction. Construction crews were reminded to be on the lookout for any monarchs that fly into active work areas.

No planting occurred today.

Conclusions

Based on observations made during monitoring, the following conclusions were made:

1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife tend to slowly move away from an area when crews approach to conduct work activities. They return to the area once the crews move on. The crew was reminded to dispose of trash properly.
2. The killdeer have not yet built a nest in the west mudflat, but are finding that location favorable. The pair move between the West Basin and Central Basin mudflats with occasional short trips to the gabion peninsula.
3. In general, wildlife is most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife activity after 10:00 am, with the exception of American crows and gulls. Wildlife activity often increases slightly in the late afternoon.
4. No construction activities occurred in the water.
5. The number of fish surfacing and caught by birds confirm that fish are entering the Basin through the tide gates.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on March 17, 2016.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on March 17, 2016		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	Several individuals; Very common flying overhead, perching on power line poles, and exploring the basin banks
Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	Five individuals observed on the northwest mudflats
Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>	Several individuals; Common flying overhead and standing in near the mudflats
Western Gull	<i>Larus occidentalis</i>	Three individuals in the Basin and several flying overhead
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	1 individual on the gabion peninsula

Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	1 individual perched on the gabion peninsula
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	4-6 individuals foraging throughout the Basin and flying overhead
Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>	4-6 individuals observed flying overhead
American Wigeon	<i>Anas americana</i>	Over 12 individuals foraging and resting in the Basin
Lesser Scaup	<i>Aythya affinis</i>	Over 12 individuals foraging and resting in the Basin
American Coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>	Two individuals foraging throughout the Basin
Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	1 in the Basin; Very common; observed flying overhead and on structures to the south and west of the Basin
House Finch	<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>	Several individuals; common in palms along Washington Boulevard
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Several individuals in the palm trees and near the construction trailer.
Anna's Hummingbird	<i>Calypte anna</i>	Several individuals observed hovering overhead or perching throughout the Basin
Yellow-rumped Warbler	<i>Setophaga coronate</i>	1 individual in the staged plants on the west side of the Basin
Dark-eyed Junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	Several individuals calling from trees across Admiralty
Bufflehead	<i>Bucephala albeola</i>	1 individual wading in the Basin
Allen's Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus sasin</i>	Several individuals heard in the eucalyptus tree
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	1 individual perched on the powerline
Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	1 individual in the central mudflat
Black-crowned night heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	2 individuals on the gabion peninsula
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	One individual foraging through staged plants then flying into the west pine.



Memorandum

To: Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

*From: Jennifer Jones, CDM Smith
Christina M Gonzalez, CDM Smith*

Date: March 18, 2016

Subject: Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement Project

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on March 18, 2016, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Christina M Gonzalez, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 6:15 am and ending at 3:30 p.m. Weather conditions were mostly cloudy with winds picking up in the afternoon. Temperatures ranged from 58°F in the morning to 64°F in the afternoon. Overnight, there was no measureable rain.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with setting the scaffolding and cement placing for the curbs and a slab on the Admiralty walking path, landscape work along the northern slope near the pump house, electrical work and installation of the lighted bollards along the Admiralty walking path, installation of one of the observation decks, installing the decomposed granite (DG) walking path along Washington and on the peninsulas, and installing of the fence along Admiralty Way. All crews were overseen by the Contractor Superintendent and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field-log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

6:15 am. Biological monitor arrives on site to conduct initial assessment. The construction gate is open and several crew members are in the construction parking lot.

6:25 am. The initial biological survey begins. Several house finches and house sparrows can be heard calling from the trees on Washington and Admiralty Way. About 10 waterfowl, including lesser scaups, gadwall, and two American Coots are resting on the central bank. About five wigeon

swim near the stormwater outfall. A dark-eyed junco can be heard in the trees along Admiralty Way. Two mallards swim south of the berm. Six American wigeon are in the Central Basin south of the berm. An Allen's hummingbird is heard in the pines near the tide gates. A great egret is perched on the railing near the tide gates.

7:00 am. The biological monitor gives the bio-awareness training to the construction crew. Training focused on awareness of wildlife in the Basin, to be mindful of monarchs and mating birds, and to watch for waterfowl above the silt fence. The crew was also thanked for their efforts in cleaning up litter, and to continue cleaning up after themselves.

7:05 am. Work begins. A snowy egret walks along the south bank of the Basin. The fence crew works on the parapet wall fence on the west side. Another group removes the privacy fence along Washington to prepare the DG fill. Scaffolding work continues on the Admiralty walking path. A double-crested cormorant circles the Basin several times before continuing past the towers on Admiralty.

7:20 am. A bufflehead flies into the West Basin but flies out and heads west shortly after. A western gull flies south overhead. Three European starlings are perched on the transformer near the construction trailer. A snowy egret walks along the bank of the West Basin.

7:43 am. Approximately thirteen lesser scaup and one bufflehead wade in the East Basin. Eleven American wigeon and two coots are wading in the southern portion of the Basin. Planting begins on the northern slope near the pump house.

7:56 am. A snowy egret perches on the stormwater outfall. A pair of mallards are in the southeast channel.

8:13 am. An Anna's hummingbird is perched on a tree by the pump house.

8:44 am. A great blue heron circles over the Basin several times but does not land. It flies behind the towers on Admiralty. It then returns and stands on the gabion peninsula.

8:57 am. An Anna's hummingbird calls from the sign on the light post on Washington. A snowy egret is perched on the gabion peninsula.

9:09 am. A great-tailed grackle calls from the utility pole then flies into the berm next to a great blue heron. Two great blue herons fly overhead but do not land.

9:30 am. A Nuttall's woodpecker is foraging through the flowers of the coral tree along the bike path. Plants are being staged under the east pine.

9:57 am. Concrete is being placed on the curbs by the tide gate. One killdeer calls from the gabion peninsula.

10:34 am. The great blue heron walks along the bank of the west mudflat. A bufflehead swims in the

West Basin.

11:09 am. A monarch butterfly flies over the southern slope heading east. The osprey with the missing tail feather circles the Basin. A killdeer is standing on the gabion peninsula.

11:23 am. The killdeer is displaying behavior associated with nesting (scratching, tail up, calling) in a spool of wire that was left on the gabion peninsula. The osprey eats a fish perched on top of the utility pole on the northwest peninsula.

11:45 am. Crew breaks for lunch.

12:30 pm. Work resumes. The two killdeer are in the scrub mix of the Central Basin. As the biological monitor approaches one flies into the central mudflat. The biological monitor backs away and a moment later the second flies into the mudflat.

12:46 pm. An Allen's hummingbird is in the coral tree along the bike path.

1:00 pm. The snowy egret is perched on the side of the gabion peninsula.

1:14 pm. The osprey soars over the Basin. An Allen's hummingbird is heard in the pines next to the tide gates.

1:39 pm. A peregrine falcon flies over the parking lot and several rock pigeons circle it. The falcon flies past the towers on Admiralty Way.

2:24 pm. A great blue heron is perched on the side of the gabion peninsula. The two killdeer are standing in the central mudflat. Twelve lesser scaup, two gadwall, two American coots, and six American wigeon are in the Basin.

2:45 pm. Two nests are observed high in the eucalyptus trees near the pump house. No birds are seen close to the nests; however, several crows are in the tree and surrounding trees. One nest is located in the 5th eucalyptus from Admiralty and sits right over the DG walking path. The other nest is located in the 4th pine from Admiralty in a branch that faces north over the green house. The biological monitor observes the nests for several minutes and does not confirm if they are active.

3:07 pm. An Allen's hummingbird is flying in the pines near the tide gates.

3:11 pm. Two house finches are perched on a light pole. Fish can be seen breaching the water in the West Basin. A second snowy egret perches on the peninsula by the tide gates and the other (observed at 1:00 pm) scares it off. It then flies to the end of the peninsula.

3:24 pm. A brown pelican flies into the East Basin and begins to bathe. After about five minutes it jumps to the wall of the stormwater outfall to dry.

3:30 pm. Work ends for the day. The gate is closed and all crew leave for the day.

Additional Observations

One osprey was observed today. It was seen diving for food and eating on site. It was identified as the osprey previously seen with the missing tail feather.

No Black Skimmers or California Least Terns were observed today. No savannah sparrows, and therefore no potential Belding's savannah sparrows, were observed.

One California brown pelican was observed using the Basin today.

Two killdeer were observed today on the gabion peninsula and the central mudflats. One showed signs of nesting behavior such as scratching, calling, and raising its tail on the peninsula, but did not make a nest.

One monarch butterfly was observed today by the biological monitor. No butterflies or other wildlife were harmed during construction. Construction crews were reminded to be on the lookout for any monarchs that fly into active work areas.

Planting on the northern slope occurred today near the pump house.

Conclusions

Based on observations made during monitoring, the following conclusions were made:

1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife tends to slowly move away from an area when crews approach to conduct work activities. They return to the area once the crews move on. The crew was reminded to dispose of trash properly.
2. One osprey, identified by its missing tail feather, has been observed fishing in the Basin all but one day this week. The time spent in the Basin and its aggressive behavior toward other osprey trying to fish in the Basin suggest this osprey is a resident and considers the Basin its territory.
3. The pair of killdeer appear to be selecting possible nesting locations on the gabion peninsula, the west mudflat, and the central mudflat. Their movement and lack of deterrent displays toward approaching humans signal that a nesting site has not yet been selected.
4. In general, wildlife is most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife activity after 10:00 am, with the exception of American crows and gulls. Wildlife activity often increases slightly in the late afternoon.
5. No construction activities occurred in the water.

6. The number of fish surfacing and caught by osprey and wading birds confirm that fish are entering the Basin through the tide gates.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on March 18, 2016.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on March 18, 2016		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	Several individuals; Very common flying overhead, perching on power line poles, and exploring the basin banks
Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferous</i>	Five individuals observed on the northwest mudflats
Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>	Several individuals; Common flying overhead and standing in near the mudflats
Western Gull	<i>Larus occidentalis</i>	Three individuals in the Basin and several flying overhead
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	2 individuals on the gabion peninsula
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea Herodias</i>	3 individuals; perched on the gabion peninsula and flying overhead
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	4-6 individuals foraging throughout the Basin and flying overhead
Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>	4-6 individuals observed flying overhead
American Wigeon	<i>Anas americana</i>	Over 12 individuals foraging and resting in the Basin
Lesser Scaup	<i>Aythya affinis</i>	Over 12 individuals foraging and resting in the Basin
American Coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>	Two individuals wading throughout the Basin
Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	Very common; observed flying overhead and on structures to the south and west of the Basin
House Finch	<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>	Several individuals; common in palms along Washington Boulevard
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Several individuals in the palm trees and near the construction trailer.
Anna's Hummingbird	<i>Calypte anna</i>	Several individuals observed hovering overhead or perching throughout the Basin

Dark-eyed Junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	Several individuals calling from trees across Admiralty
Bufflehead	<i>Bucephala albeola</i>	1-2 individuals wading in the Basin
Allen's Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus sasin</i>	Several individuals heard in the eucalyptus tree
European Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	3 individuals on the transformer by the construction trailer
Nuttall's Woodpecker	<i>Picoides nuttallii</i>	1 individual in the coral tree on the bike path
Great-trailed grackle	<i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i>	1 individual on the utility pole on the northeast peninsula
Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	1 individual on the East Basin
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	1 individual flying over the West Basin
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	1 individual diving throughout the Basin
Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i>	1 individual flying overhead



Memorandum

To: Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

From: Jennifer Jones, CDM Smith
John Ivanov, SWCA Environmental Consultants

Date: March 19, 2016

Subject: Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement Project

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on March 19, 2016, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by John Ivanov, SWCA biologist, beginning at 6:15am and ending at 3:30pm. Weather conditions were cloudy throughout the day. Temperatures ranged from 60°Fahrenheit in the morning to 68° Fahrenheit in the afternoon. No measureable rain was recorded.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with planting, grading, cement prepping for paths, and irrigation of existing plantings. Prepping for path construction and embankment planting included earth moving, compaction of soil, and wooden form setting for concrete. All the construction crews were overseen by the Contractor Superintendent and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field-log notes, with observations of the day's activities, and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

6:08 am. Three Black-crowned Night Herons were observed feeding at the pump house, and Killdeer and House Finches could be heard calling nearby.

6:35 am. An American Crow, a Western Gull, and an Allen's Hummingbird were observed and heard in the western portion of the Basin.

6:55 am. An Orange-crowned Warbler was heard singing as the Biological Monitor began a Bio-awareness training for a 17 member crew. The training consisted of a description of current

wildlife observations and a reminder to pay attention for wildlife and pick up all trash observed within the Basin.

7:15 am. Twenty Lesser Scaups, nine American Wigeons, six Mallards, and two American Coots utilized the Basin around the diversion berm.

7:35 am. The crew worked on north side of the Basin, planting and constructing a retention wall.

7:55 am. The crew continued working on the southern walkway, setting up forms and grading in preparation for concrete pouring.

8:15 am. Four Gadwalls were observed swimming in the eastern channel within the Basin. A Great-blue Heron was observed flying overhead.

9:15 am. An American Crow passed through the Basin area.

9:35 am. The crew hauled dirt to eastern end of the Basin using dump trucks and bulldozers.

9:55 am. Planting continued on the east embankment of the Basin while three American Crows were observed flying over the Basin.

10:15 am. A small bulldozer was used to transport potted plants to a planting site. An Anna's and Allen's Hummingbird were observed feeding around the west end of the Basin.

10:35 am. A Great-blue Heron, a Great Egret, a Morning Dove, and a Yellow-rumped Warbler utilized the Basin while a Northern Mockingbird was observed singing nearby.

10:50 am. A backhoe was used to plant trees along the northeast bike path. Forty Cedar Waxwings were observed flying overhead.

11:10 am. A Great Egret was observed on the east end of the berm within the Basin, and small 5" fish were observed jumping out of the water.

11:30 am. House Finches were heard singing as some of the crew members broke for lunch.

11:50 am. Plants observed on the diversion berm include, but are not limited to, Milk Thistle, Miner's lettuce, Shepard's Purse, and Bristly Oxtongue.

12:00 pm. All the crews broke for lunch.

1:00 pm. The crews returned from lunch and irrigation (watering the plants) continued along northern embankment.

1:20 pm. The crews continued grading and setting wooden forms for the southern walkway.

1:40 pm. Planting continued near the bike path on northern side of Basin.

2:00 pm. A Brown Pelican with breeding plumage was observed preening on the north side of the Basin.

2:40 am. Grading and digging began at the eastern-most inlets and hose irrigation of the potted plants began there.

3:00 pm. Waterfowl were observed gathering in the west side of the Basin as crews began working farther away.

3:20 pm. The workers cleaned up to go home and began to exit worksite.

Additional Observations

No Black Skimmers, Osprey, or California Least Terns were observed today.

No savannah sparrows, and therefore no potential Belding's savannah sparrows, were observed today.

No Monarch Butterflies were observed today. No butterflies or other wildlife were harmed during construction.

Conclusions

Based on observations made during monitoring, the following conclusions were made:

1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife tends to slowly move away from an area when crews approach to conduct work activities. They return to the area once the crews move on.
2. In general, wildlife are most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife activity after 10:00 am, with the exception of American crows and gulls. Wildlife activity often increases slightly in the late afternoon.
3. No construction activities occurred in the water.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on March 19, 2016.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on March 19, 2016		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	Several individuals; Very common flying overhead, perching on power line poles, and exploring the basin banks
California Gull	<i>Larus californica</i>	Common flying overhead
Western Gull	<i>Larus occidentalis</i>	common flying overhead
American Coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>	Two individuals foraging throughout the Basin
Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	Very common; observed flying overhead and on structures to the south and west of the Basin
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	Several individuals observed flying overhead
Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	A few observed foraging throughout the Basin
Yellow-rumped Warbler	<i>Setophaga coronata</i>	Several individuals observed flying from perch to perch foraging throughout the Basin
Orange-crowned Warbler	<i>Oreothlypis vermivora</i>	Several individuals observed singing and foraging in and outside of the basin trees.
Yellow-rumped Warbler	<i>Setophaga coronata</i>	Common overhead and foraging around basin.
Anna's Hummingbird	<i>Calypte anna</i>	One female was observed sitting on a nest, likely incubating eggs. Several other
Allen's Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus sasin</i>	Regular visitor to basin
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Four individuals swimming in the Basin
American Wigeon	<i>Anas americana</i>	Nine individuals swimming in the Basin
Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>	Six individuals swimming in the Basin
Lesser Scaup	<i>Aythya affinis</i>	Twenty forging in the Basin
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Several individuals calling from the palms on Washington, and a few foraging on West Basin
Great-blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	Two individuals
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	One individual on the Berm near the Tide Gates.
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	On individual in the Central Basin mudflat.
Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	A pair of individuals foraged and sat along banks of northwest mudflats.
Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i>	One individual observed swimming, foraging, and basking in the Basin
Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	1 individual preening on the north side of the Basin



Figure 1: Shepard's purse on diversion berm.



Figure 2: Miner's lettuce on diversion berm.



Figure 3: Milk Thistle on diversion berm.



Figure 4: Tree planting on north side of the Basin.



Figure 5: Planted northern embankment.



Figure 6: Eastern inlet.



Figure 7: Great blue Heron on diversion berm.



Figure 8: Great Egret on diversion berm.



Figure 9: Snowy Egret on diversion berm.



Figure 10: Brown Pelican on north side of Basin.